

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 ACDE-00
CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02
OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
TRSE-00 /082 W
-----108910 251810Z /43

R 251556Z NOV 77
FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2503
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MBFR VIENNA 0628

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJ: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: NOVEMBER 24, 3- 534, 0)3,-46 5-53-
MENT

AT THE 154TH PLENARY MEETING OF THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS ON
NOVEMBER 24, WHICH WAS CHAIRED BY SOVIET REP (TARASOV),
GDR REP (OESER) DELIVERED THE ONLY STATEMENT. HIS LENGTHY
AND SHARPLY WORDED PRESENTATION CONTRASTED THE EAST'S
ALLEGEDLY FORTHCOMING AND CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE IN THE
TALKS WITH THE WEST'S UNCONSTRUCTIVE POSITION AND NEGOTIATING
TACTICS. HE ASKED FOR AN UNAMBIGUOUS WESTERN RESPONSE TO THE
EAST'S OCTOBER 24 "COMPROMISE" PROPOSAL FOR FURTHER DATA
DISAGGREGATION. THE STATEMENT ALSO INCLUDED STRONG
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ADVOCACY OF THE EASTERN FREEZE PROPOSAL, CHARGES THAT
THE WEST WAS INCREASING ITS FORCES IN THE AREA BOTH
QUANTITATIVELY AND QUALITATIVELY WITH BOTH ER WARHEADS
("NEUTRON BOMBS") AND CRUISE MISSILES BEING MENTIONED
IN THIS CONTEXT, AND AN APPARENT REFERENCES TO THE POSSIBILITY
THAT THE EAST MIGHT BE PREPARED TO LIMIT ARMAMENTS RE-
DUCTIONS TO THOSE SPECIFIED IN ITS FEBRUARY 1976

PROPOSAL. THE MAIN POINTS OF THE GDR STATEMENT, THE FULL TEXT OF WHICH FOLLOWS BY AIRGRAM, WERE:

- 1) ALL DIRECT PARTICIPANTS MUST CONTRIBUTE EQUIVALENTLY IF THE TASK OF MUTUALLY REDUCING ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN A MANNER WHICH PROTECTS UNDIMINISHED SECURITY AND DOES NOT PROVIDE UNILATERAL ADVANTAGES IS TO BE ACHIEVED.
- 2) THE EASTERN DRAFT AGREEMENT ON NOVEMBER 1973 DEMONSTRATED THE EAST'S READINESS TO REDUCE ITS FORCES; IF THAT PROPOSAL HAD BEEN ACCEPTED, BOTH EASTERN AND WESTERN FORCES WOULD HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY MORE THAN 150,000 MEN BY THE END OF THIS YEAR.
- 3) THE EAST'S FEBRUARY 1976 PROPOSAL, WHICH TAKES SUBSTANTIAL ELEMENTS OF THE WESTERN POSITION INTO ACCOUNT, FURTHER UNDERLINES THE EAST'S DESIRE FOR A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE AGREEMENT.
- 4) EASTERN PROPOSALS ARE REALISTIC AND DISPLAY A READINESS TO COMPROMISE STARTING FROM THE POSITION OF THE EXISTING APPROXIMATE EQUILIBRIUM OF FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE.
- 5) EASTERN PROPOSALS ARE BASED ON ALL DIRECT PARTICIPANTS MUTUALLY CONTRIBUTING TO THE TASKS OF THESE

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NEGOTIATIONS BY UNDERTAKING EQUIVALENT, BINDING OBLIGATIONS.

- 6) COLLECTIVITY IN DISARMAMENT, WHICH THE EAST HAS CALLED FOR FROM THE OUTSET, MEANS THAT EACH DIRECT PARTICIPANT SHOULD MAKE CONCRETE, EQUIVALENT REDUCTIONS.
- 7) EASTERN PARTICIPANTS HAVE NEVER ADOPTED AN ALL-OR-NOTHING POSTURE, BUT HAVE SOUGHT COMPROMISE AS IS EVIDENCED BY THEIR FEBRUARY 1976 PROPOSAL TO REDUCE IN TWO PHASES AND TO START ARMAMENT REDUCTIONS WITH A NUMBER OF MILITARILY SIGNIFICANT TYPES OF ARMAMENTS.

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OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
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R 251556Z NOV 77
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 MBFR VIENNA 0628

8) THE WEST HAS NOT CHANGED THE OVERALL PATTERN OF ITS UNREALISTIC NOVEMBER 1973 PROPOSALS WHICH SEEK UNILATERAL ADVANTAGES BY ATTEMPTING TO SECURE UNEQUAL OBLIGATIONS AND ASYMMETRIC REDUCTIONS.

9) THE WEST SHOULD ABANDON ITS UNCONSTRUCTIVE NEGOTIATING TACTICS AND ADOPT A REALISTIC ATTITUDE BASED ON THE EAST'S FEBRUARY 1976 COMPROMISE PROPOSAL.

10) THE EAST HAS ADOPTED A PATIENT, CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE IN THE DATA DISCUSSION WHILE THE WEST HAS SOUGHT TO DIVERT THAT DISCUSSION INTO MATTERS OF THE STRUCTURE, ORGANIZATION AND DEPLOYMENT OF ARMED FORCES.

11) THIS CONSTRUCTIVE EASTERN ATTITUDE WAS DISPLAYED WHEN THE EAST SUBMITTED ITS OCTOBER 25 PROPOSAL FOR THE FURTHER DISCUSSION OF DATA.

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12) THE WEST HAS NOT CLEARLY AND UNAMBIGUOUSLY ANSWERED THAT EASTERN PROPOSAL WHOSE ACCEPTANCE WOULD ACCELERATE THE DATA DISCUSSION AND MAKE IT MORE CONSTRUCTIVE.

13) THE WEST'S PRECONCEIVED POSITION ON THE DATA QUESTION IS AN ATTEMPT TO JUSTIFY ITS UNREALISTIC CONCEPTIONS WHICH ARE DESIGNED TO GIVE ONE WESTERN EUROPEAN STATE A MILITARY PREPONDERANCE IN CENTRAL EUROPE.

14) THE WEST'S PROPOSALS WOULD GIVE THE WEST A 150,000 MAN SUPERIORITY OVER EASTERN FORCES IN THE AREA, AND ONE-SIDEDLY CONSTRAIN THE FORCES OF THE SOVIET UNION, THEREBY UNDERMINING THE EXISTING FORCE PARITY AND IMPAIRING STABILITY WITH NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES IN THE WHOLE OF EUROPE AND BEYOND.

15) IN ADDITION TO MAKING THE DATA QUESTION A BARRIER TO PROGRESS, THE WEST IS MAKING INEQUITABLE DEMANDS FOR COMPENSATION FOR ALLEGED GEOGRAPHIC ADVANTAGES WHICH WOULD UNACCEPTABLY EXTEND THE NEGOTIATIONS TO QUESTIONS OUTSIDE THE REDUCTION AREA.

16) THE WEST IS NOT ONLY UNWILLING TO ACCEPT THE EASTERN PROPOSAL FOR A NON-INCREASE OF FORCES FOR THE DURATION OF THE TALKS BUT IS INCREASING ITS FORCES BOTH QUANTATIVELY AND QUALITATIVELY.

17) WESTERN REPRESENTATIVES IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE ASSERTED THAT THE WEST IS FREE TO INCREASE ITS FORCES IN THE PERIOD BEFORE AN AGREEMENT, THEREBY PARALLELING STATEMENTS BY WESTERN MILITARY LEADERS SUPPORTING AN INTENSIFIED ARMS RACE.

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18) A FREEZE SUCH AS THE EAST HAS PROPOSED WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH THE INTEREST OF EUROPE'S PEOPLES IN AVOIDING A FURTHER ACCUMULATION OF ARMS.

19) THE OBJECTIVE OF STOPPING THE ARMS RACE WOULD BE SERVED BY BEGINNING WITH A FREEZE AND MOVING SUBSEQUENTLY TO REDUCTIONS.

20) IN HIS NOVEMBER 3 STATEMENT, THE FRG REPRESENTATIVE CATEGORICALLY OPPOSED EVEN SELECTIVE ARMS REDUCTIONS OF THE KIND HE CLAIMED TO SEE IN THE FEBRUARY 1976 EASTERN PROPOSAL.

21) IN ADDITION, IT IS SAID THAT THE WEST IS PLANNING TO INTRODUCE NEW WEAPONS INTO CENTRAL EUROPE SUCH AS THE NEUTRON BOMB AND CRUISE MISSILES ALTHOUGH SUCH MOVES ARE OPPOSED BY PUBLIC OPINION.

22) THE SOVIET UNION'S CALL ON THE SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OCTOBER REVOLUTION FOR NEW EFFORTS FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT SHOULD EVOKE AN ECHO IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS.

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